POL 19 VIETS
1422

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION EA-20

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-08 L-04 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 IPW-01 AID-28
IO-13 RSR-01 /130 W
100211

R 280900Z NOV 70
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8493
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL DA NANG
CINCPAC
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 18819

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: BIG MINH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

REF: A. SAIGON 17618 B) SAIGON 18431
POL 2 VIET POL 19 VIET? VS POL 2 VIET

1. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW ON NOVEMBER 24 AT THE RESIDENCE OF FORMER SENATOR TRAN VAN DOI DURING A MEETING WITH HIS 1963 COMRADES GENERAL DOUNG VAN MINH IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT HE "STILL MAINTAINS THE INTENTION TO RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN THE SPIRIT OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NOVEMBER 1963 REVOLUTION AND WITHOUT THE DESIRE TO SPLIT NATIONAL UNITY".

2. THE LOCAL PRESS, INCLUDING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE VIET-NAM GUARDIAN, CARRIED ON NOVEMBER 28 MINH'S REPLIES TO A SERIES OF QUESTIONS ON HIS CONCEPT OF "NATIONAL REVOLUTION", HIS VIEW OF "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION", ETC. REPLIES WERE EXTREMELY VAGUE, AND ADDED NOTHING TO HIS EQUALLY VAGUE NOVEMBER 1 STATEMENT. (TEXT POUCHED).

3. COMMENT: FOLLOWING MINH'S EARLIE STATEMENTS AT AN QUANG ON NOVEMBER 1 (REF A) AND TO AFP ON NOVEMBER 13 (REF B), THIS ADDS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Donna Zuber DATE 1/22/82
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Saigon 18819 11/28/70

[redacted]

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SOME MORE DEFINITENESS TO MINH'S CANDIDACY FOR THE 1971 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. REPEATED EMPHASIS ON HIS DESIRE NOT TO DISRUPT NATIONAL SOLIDARITY COULD PROVIDE A PRETEXT, HOWEVER, TO WITHDRAW FROM THE RACE AT SOME LATTER DATE. GENERAL MAI HUU XUAN, CLOSE

MINH ASSOCIATE, RECENTLY STATED TO EMBOFFS THAT THE GENERAL WOULD RENOUNCE HIS CANDIDACY "IN THE EVENT PRESIDENT THIEU ADJUSTS HIS POLICY".
BUNKER

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CONCURRENCE ACTION

EA-8

RM/R	REP	AF
ARA	EUR 5	FE
NEA	CU	INR 6
STC 1	P	IO 5
15	FBO	AID 15
S/S 10	PM 2	Es/IAD Hheels 1
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR 5
ARMY 3	CIA 16	NAVY 5
OSD 34	USIA 10	NSA 3
		FISC 6

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

20 XR XR

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POL 15-1 VIETS
POL 5-1 VIETS
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A-46 NO. | UNCLASSIFIED | (1424) HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State R

INFO : BANGKOK, CINCPAC FOR POLAD, DANANG, USDEL FRANCE (2), VIENTIANE

FROM : Amembassy SAIGON

DATE: April 21, 1971

SUBJECT : Draft Presidential Election Law

REF : Saigon 4062

1. Enclosure 1 to this airgram is an unofficial Embassy translation of the Presidential Election Law as it was approved by the Upper House March 19.

2. The law is presently before the Interior Committee of the Lower House for second-round action, and no firm estimate is available as to when it may be brought to the floor of the Lower House for action. A majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the Lower House is necessary to amend the Senate version of the bill, and it may be difficult for the Lower House to achieve this majority.

3. After passing the Lower House for the second time, the bill will go to President Thieu who may either sign it or return it to the National Assembly with proposed amendments. The President's amendments stand unless rejected by an absolute majority of the membership of the two houses of the National Assembly sitting jointly.

4. Thus the draft law enclosed with this airgram may undergo further change before being promulgated.

BERGER

Enclosure:
Presidential election bill as passed by the Upper House March 19, 1971

1971 APR 26 PM 4 33

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by: POL:RSThompson:sp/sm

Comments on Classification approved by: POL:LBASKEW

Clearances:
POL:ISylvester 4/21/71

CLASSIFICATION